



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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Situation Report Winter Flooding Event March 20, 2008, 11 a.m.

UPDATED INFORMATION IS IN BOLD

SUMMARY

All rain has moved on east of Missouri. The National Weather Service expects at least two days of dry weather. Some local rivers are still in flood and some of the major rivers are rapidly filling. Five Missourians have died as a result of these storms – two in Greene County, one in Reynolds County, one in Bollinger County and one in Lawrence County– these have been confirmed. MoDOT reports **190** locations on state roads are currently closed due to flash flooding.

Gov. Matt Blunt signed two State of Emergency Executive Orders for the severe weather and flooding that has struck Missouri. The executive orders activated the State Emergency Operations Center allowing state agency resources to assist local jurisdictions with their emergency response, and activated the Missouri National Guard to assist with protective action.

The SEOC has been activated to a Level Two and is now operating on a 24-hour basis.

County Reports:

Barry County – Barry County EOC is now in stand-by status.

Bollinger County –Several vehicles were washed off Highway 72 east of Marble Hill. There are concerns over capacity of lift station – They are still functioning as of Wednesday, March 19, 2008. Two shelters are open and several homes and businesses have been flooded. County requested state assistance in accessing residents in about 30-50 homes. One person confirmed dead – Driver was found in a flooded truck that had been swept into the water. Ten businesses and seven homes affected in Marble Hill.

Butler County – **Highway 60 is closed east of Poplar Bluff at the Black River crossing.** Traffic is being diverted onto Business 60, but that area is being threatened by high water as well. Several reports of levee breaches have come in during the day south of Poplar Bluff, apparently affecting some residents and roads. An additional report of a levee breach is being investigated tonight. Black River Coliseum is continuing to shelter people. DNR reports a Boil Water Order has been issued in Poplar Bluff.

Camden County– Many low water crossings covered. Part of Rt “BB” and part of Rt “H” are closed. Watching the Climax Springs area closely. The Little Niangua, Big Niangua and the Glaze are impassable and will be for two to three days

Cape Girardeau County – Evacuations complete in Allenville and Dutchtown areas. One Shelter was opened with 8 people at Delta. Airport is back open. Some animal rescues were handled in the past day.

Carter County– Minimum amount of damage – River crested at mid-night less than expected. About 100 homes and 10 businesses were damaged in Van Buren. Five people were sheltered last night in local hotels. There are problems with phone service in rural areas. High water has prevented officials from doing much damage assessment yet.

Cedar County – Minor flooding at this time. A section of Highway 39 is closed. One shelter is on stand-by.

Christian County – More than 50 roads reported closed. James and Finley Rivers, and Wilson's Creek, are out of their banks. 6"-9" of rain and two water rescues reported. Sandbags are being used in Ozark to protect businesses near the river. Evacuated three homes in the northern part of the county.

Dade County – Several low water crossings are out with many more covered. Route "K" is still closed. No requests at this time.

Dallas County – Damage assessment is going on at this time. One bridge has been washed out. No injuries and no requests for this time.

Dent County – Low water crossings are underwater and most county roads are impassable. Officials are reporting several swift water rescues. Considerable amount of county has road damage. No shelters at this time. Officials are monitoring situation with one private dam but no assistance requested at this time.

Douglas County – Roads and some bridges are still covered. Five highways are closed. No evacuees and no shelters at this time.

Franklin County –Twenty-seven roads closed at this time. Two State highways are also closed. County is opening a shelter and others may be needed. No injuries reported. City of Union will be closing some local roads as the water rises. Some voluntary evacuations have taken place in Pacific. There are concerns about the effect the expected near-record crest of the Meramec may bring later this week. **One lift station in jeopardy of flooding. Barricades are available. One business has been affected. No shelters at this time (City of Union).**

Gasconade County – 12 roads closed. Most low-water crossings have been damaged. One house in Owensville had a basement collapse.

Greene County – Two fatalities have occurred related to the weather during the day. County reporting five swift water rescues. Approximately 55 roads are closed due to flooding and one bridge is out. Republic and Springfield have some street closures. One shelter was opened with just a few people there.

Howell County – Several roads closed, including Routes "H" and "Z". Had a water rescue. One person from Old Franklin moved to a hotel due to rising water at their home.

Iron County – 10 roads are still closed. No changes in the number of homes. An additional 40 roads were damaged.

Jasper County— 4 vehicle and 2 residences were evacuated. No casualties or evacuations.

Jefferson County – As of 5:30 a.m., 34 roads are closed causing isolations of populations. Equipment was moved into these pockets to assist those citizens. Door to door notifications of potential victims to evacuate. No number of homes of affected.

Laclede County – An estimated 20-30 homes and 10-12 businesses have been damaged or destroyed by flooding. Hundreds of county roads and low water crossings were damaged. Two businesses and 5 homes were evacuated. **Interstate 44 was reopened in both directions at 4:45 a.m. 20 March 2008. Shelter is closed. EOC may be shutting down later today.**

Lawrence County – Officials report the body of an individual missing after being swept off a bridge was recovered Wednesday. Several county roads and bridges are still under water. City of Aurora has been using sandbags to help with flooding.

Madison County – Roads have some damage, but all major roads are open. No evacuees and no shelters.

Maries County – Situation has been improving and water is receding from many low water crossings. The Gasconade River continues to rise and is expected to soon come over Highway 63 south of Vienna. MoDOT is making plans for an alternate route once it is closed. **Mo Highway 42 closed 2.5 miles east of Vienna. Route ZZ between Route 28 and Highway 42 is still open. One business and one home may have been affected. No requests at this time.**

McDonald County – Four water rescues within the County. Southwest City lift station is underwater. City of Noel sewer pipe has broken (again). They have at least 100 homes and businesses underwater. **City of Noel is still having sewer problems.**

Miller County – County reports several roads and low water crossings were affected. Debris is clogging some culverts.

Montgomery County – Most low water crossings are affected. A bridge on Co. Rd 191 collapsed (Little Loutre Creek). Route “J” was closed.

Newton County – Several home rescues have been taking place in the Joplin area due to high water surrounding them. Shoal Creek crested Wednesday. All roads near the creek were closed. Water receding in Neosho.

New Madrid County – Some minor power outages reported earlier but power is restored. Some sandbagging going on throughout the county. No shelters open. **Nothing additional to report.**

Osage County – **Reports one primary residence is at risk of flooding and five cabins (secondary homes) at risk of flooding. Highway 89 between Belle and Linn is closed.**

Polk County— County has received about 4 to 6” of rain. Three water rescues have taken place and rivers are reaching their crest. One bridge was damaged near Fair Play. Route “H” is closed in Pleasant Hope, as well as the school there. County Rd. 215 is closed.

Pulaski County – Heavy rains have caused major flooding. Major protective measures ongoing. Many roads closed causing travel complications. Damage to buildings and equipment reported. Emergency evacuation of some homes required. **Hwy 17 and Route T north of Waynesville are closed. Route 28 and 133 are still open. Ten people were housed in local hotels. I-44 will be closed at Mile Marker 167 for an unknown period of time**

Reynolds County – Major damage reported in city of Ellington, with 30-50 homes being evacuated. Several homes and businesses there were flooded. Smaller streams are starting to recede. Black River is coming up. Lots of road damage throughout the county. About 100 homes and 20 businesses are affected. The shelter in Ellington is now closed. Damage assessment process is getting started in Ellington.

Ripley County – Current River receding in Doniphan. Some residents of Naylor being evacuated. Officials estimate eight businesses and 10-15 homes have been damaged. Two propane and one diesel tank that were in the water have been stabilized. One more tank is still lodged in debris in the water and not accessible at this time. Some water rescues have taken place and one family was re-located to a local hotel.

St. Charles County – Some scattered transportation issues being reported so far. No shelters have been opened, and no evacuations. No requests for assistance at this time. **Nothing new to report.**

St. Francois County – 25 homes in jeopardy. Three homes were flood damaged. 25 county roads closed. Highway 221 in the county is now open and overall situation is improving. City of Bonne Terre Community Lake had a dam with a blocked overflow but officials report the water is now going down and situation has stabilized. No shelters are open at this time.

St. Louis County – Officials report St Louis County Parks closed due to flooding at Lower Meramec Trail/Butler Lake access. Considering projected water levels, numerous highways and major roads are expected to be affected by high water. Those include: I-44 and Highways 109, 141, 30 (Gravois) and 21 (Tesson Ferry) and affect residents in several cities. St. Louis County EOC will be activated but hours are to be determined. The Valley Park Fire Protection District and Valley Park Police Detail are taking steps to re-position outside the anticipated impacted area. The County Police Mobile Command Center has been deployed to the Valley Park area.

St. Louis City – No issues to report at this time. Officials are monitoring the situation as area waterways rise. **Flood gates are still up in the City. Monitoring the backwater from the River Des Peres.**

Ste. Genevieve County – Several roads and bridges are flooded. One bridge near Minnith has several feet of water over it. **Gates are closed in the City Flood wall. Possible flooding problems in St. Mary.**

Shannon County- Extra precautions are being taken with LP gas tanks in the area by reinforcing the ground connections to the tanks. Major flooding reported across the county, with lots of road damage. In Winona, 50 homes and three businesses are damaged, 17” of water reported in school, some streets not accessible. **Both rivers have crested. Need assistance in road clearance and has requested help. One dam is over topping which will affect a couple of houses (near Eminence) Another dam which, if breaks, will flood portion of Winona.**

Scott County – **100 homes and 15 businesses with damages. Sandbagging at Commerce, Missouri.**

Stoddard County – More than 6,000 sandbags have been distributed around the county. County EMD reports workers sandbagged one business near Puxico and sent additional bags to that area. Some additional small breaks in some levees have also occurred. A reported breach on a levee along the Castor River is being investigated. Two shelters are on standby.

Stone County— City of Galena remains flooded, but water is going down after a record crest. An estimated 30 county houses and mobile homes have been destroyed or washed away. The water treatment plant in Galena is under water. Water is also in the bank and post office. Many county roads are still closed, as is Highway 413 north and south of Galena. A 7,000-gallon Propane Tank is loose and possibly leaking. DNR

is on the scene. There is a diesel tank adjacent to the propane tank that may add to the problems. **ARC has opened a Service Center in Galena.**

Taney County – A little over 4” of rain in Forsyth. No water rescues. Hollister evacuated three trailer parks. Table Rock Dam was to begin releasing water today.

Texas County – **Major flooding from 10” of rain Tuesday and Wednesday, with most private property in the flood area either badly damaged or destroyed. County suffered a lot of bridge and road damage/**

Washington County – City of Irondale reported roads are flooded in and outside of the city. No injuries or evacuations are being reported.

Wayne County – City of Piedmont is most heavily affected area. City water service is down and the county’s largest rural supplier is down also. Phone service is reported to be back up. A Boil Water Order has been issued for Piedmont. Major roads are out in the county. About 300 homes affected. Tetanus shots are being arranged through the County Health Nurse. **One shelter remains open with about 25 people there. City of Piedmont has received water buffaloes and one shipment from Anheuser-Busch was received last night. Pressure in the water system is starting to improve.**

Webster County— More than 50 roads remain blocked off by water. Additional roads may be closed as the water goes down and damage is discovered. All rivers in the county are out of their banks. Crews are working on restoring sewer pumps in Marshfield. Two water rescues occurred Tuesday near Seymour. 24 cleanup kits received from Red Cross for affected residents. County may need more road signs from MoDOT as additional closures take place. 47 homes at risk of being flooded out.

Regional Reports:

Region D – Multi-Agency Coordination Center (DMACC) – DMAC Center stood down last night.

Region E – Mutual Aid – Assisted with request for HazMat personnel to secure two floating tanks in Ripley County. DNR called in to evaluate sheen on water near service station in Doniphan. Three levee breaks reported. Cape Girardeau Fire sent a water rescue team to Butler County

State Agencies

State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) has now activated the State EOC to a 24-hour basis at Level Two. SEMA damage assessments will start next week. First focus will be on Individual Assistance. The following week (March 31-April 4) SEMA joint damage assessment teams will be working on the public damages.

Department of Conservation – Conservation agents are assisting local units of government. Will be sending bulldozers to Reynolds and Wayne Counties to assist local jurisdictions and assisting with water system infrastructure issues in Wayne County.

Department of Corrections – Two trucks of water heading to Piedmont.

Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) – DHSS assessing affects of flooding on local nursing homes, hospitals and health clinics. Sent three nurses to assist in Piedmont. **DHSS is working with City of Noel in McDonald County.**

Department of Mental Health (DMH) – Checked their group homes and none have reported any major problems. **DMH needs to be notified of evacuations in Cape Girardeau as they want to take care of their clients, if they have to be evacuated.**

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – DNR Regional Offices are assessing wastewater and drinking water problems throughout the State. Dam Safety staff responding to several water impoundments that are having safety issues. Haz Mat staff integrating with local emergency responders to address hazardous material issues. Information on issues, such as the closure of several state parks, can be accessed on DNR's website.

Department of Social Services (DSS) – **Approximately 22 shelters have been opened at various locales throughout the state. Some have closed or are closing as waters recede; others are open or just opening due to rising waters. Family Support Division County Managers throughout the southern portion of Missouri have maintained contact with their local emergency management officials to offer services where needed during this week's flash flooding. Wayne County staff assisted with serving lunch to emergency management workers, Bollinger County staff assisted at shelters at the First Baptist Church in Marble Hill and Zalma Baptist Church in Zalma, Stone County staff assisted at the shelter at the Assembly of God Church in Galena, and Butler County staff assisted at the Black River Coliseum shelter. Children's Division staff from Reynolds County helped out at the Southern Reynolds County School shelter. Managers will continue to maintain contact with local officials as needed throughout this emergency event.**

Department of Transportation (MoDOT) – District offices are assisting local Counties and Municipalities in closing highways that are covered with water and to evaluate damaged bridges. Road closures are available on Department's webpage. Critical areas of concern at this time include I-44 in **Pulaski County at 167-mile marker, Route 141/I-44 at Valley Park, Highway 60 east of Poplar Bluff and Highway 63 in Maries County at the Gasconade River. MoDOT employees directed to go to their local public health agency for a tetanus shot. MoDOT reports that the only major highway closure on going is the Highway 60 Bridge over the Black River in Butler County (east of Poplar Bluff). BNSF has three lines closed in Missouri; the Springfield- Thayer Line; Springfield – St. Louis; and the river line that goes through Cape Girardeau. Kansas City Southern is closed near Joplin. Union Pacific St. Louis-Poplar Bluff Line is closed. Piedmont (City of) Airport is closed.**

Missouri Information Analysis Center – MIAC has been assisting SEMA in updating the situation throughout the State.

Missouri National Guard (MoNG) – Has teams moving forward to assist in Marble Hill and Piedmont. **26** National Guardsman have been activated for State Emergency Duty.

Missouri Office of Administration (OA) – Several OA and Dept. of Conservation staff will be in Wayne County Thursday to assess the water system infrastructure in Piedmont and Patterson. OA is on-site at State EOC to try to assist local jurisdictions with their resource needs. OA also monitoring possible effects of flooding on state-owned facilities.

Missouri State Fire Marshal – Mutual aid has been activated. Hazardous Mat teams are being dispatched to assist local units of government. **Tanker team in Piedmont for water back-up for fire fighting.**

Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) – MSHP is assisting stranded motorists and local communities in closing highways. The MSHP Mobile Command Post from Jefferson City is on standby to assist and the

Region "G" Post was moved to Piedmont. **Coordinating with U.S. Coast Guard to move to Spirit of St. Louis Airport in St. Louis County. Troop E reported a levee break in southern Butler County.**

Missouri State Water Patrol – MSWP is assisting with water rescues in several counties **and are** preparing to move personnel and resources to St. Louis area, It currently have 12 officers and seven boats in Cape Girardeau County to assist there. **Reviewing manpower requirements and are adjusting shifts to cover additional flooding events.**

Non Government Organizations/Volunteer Organizations:

American Red Cross (ARC) is ready to assist with setting up as needed. Working to get some more cots to Black River Coliseum in Poplar Bluff. Getting ready to start damage assessments. Requests should be routed through 573.690.7527. **ARC Damage Assessment will start in Southwest Missouri today.**

AmeriCorps – 15 volunteers have been assisting Butler County Fire Protection District. Others are assisting in distribution efforts in Piedmont and in other efforts in Shannon, Carter and Wayne Counties. Staff is also on-site at SEOC (2 people). **Assisting with damage assessment in south-central and southeastern Missouri.**

Missouri Humane Society – MHS will be deploying to affected area to assist with issues involving pets and companion animals.

Salvation Army (SA) sent cots, blankets and flood kits to Springfield and Joplin for staging. Shelters were set up in Poplar Bluff and Piedmont, and a request came in to open one in Carthage. **Additional flood kits may be sent to Poplar Bluff.**

United Way - 211 – is for Non-Emergency calls only....only for information. 211 has received 25 calls to date.

Weather

Skies have cleared in most of Missouri. There is a slight chance of light rain on Friday afternoon, but some weather models indicate that there may not be enough moisture to work with. There is another chance of rain on Sunday. Temperatures will be in the upper 40s and lower 50s the next five days. Lows near freezing. National Weather Service indicates no hazardous weather for the next five days.

Point of Contact:

The State Emergency Management Agency can be contacted until further notice on a 24-hour basis at 573-526-9100.